

REMARKS

Pursuant to the non-final Office Action mailed December 13, 2005, which has been carefully considered, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. To further prosecution of this application, each of the issues raised in the Office Action is addressed herein.

Claims 1-10 are currently pending, of which Claim 1 is an independent claim. By this Amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to further clarify that which the Applicants regard as the invention. Support for the amendments to Claim 1 is provided at page 1, paragraphs 3 and 4;; page 2, paragraphs 7-9; pages 4-6, paragraphs 18-23; and pages 7 and 8, paragraphs 28-30.

A. **Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102**

Claims 1-10 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,176,612 to Chagnoux (*Chagnoux*).

The present invention is directed to a portable, wrist-worn personal electronic device, which includes a case, a wristband structure, and an attachment arrangement for attaching the case to the wristband structure. The case includes a component space, a front side, and a reverse side. The wristband structure includes a front side and a reverse side. At least one of the front side and the reverse side of the wristband structure is in contact with a user's wrist when the device is worn. The attachment arrangements include a positioning structure for mutual positioning of the case and the wristband structure, and a locking arrangement for interlocking the case and the wristband structure. For enabling attachment of the wristband

to the case from the front side of the case with the reverse side of the wristband structure ahead, each attachment arrangement has a positioning structure that includes positioning means located in the case wall and extending in the direction between the front side and the reverse side of the case. As counterparts of the positioning means belonging to the case, the positioning structure includes positioning counterparts located on the reverse side of the wristband structure, the direction of which corresponds to that of the positioning means belonging to the case structure. In each attachment arrangement, the locking structure includes, on the reverse side of the wristband, a locking projection structure that is an integral part of the wristband. As a counterpart of the locking projection structure, the case includes a locking counterpart to prevent the wristband from becoming separated from the case, as now defined by amended Claim 1.

Chagnoux relates to a device for attaching a wristband to a watch case, which allows the wristband to be removed without tools and without risking damage to the watch case or wristband. As shown in Figure 2, projections 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d extend from the sides of the wristband and engage in corresponding grooves 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d in the watch case. As shown in Figures 4-6, projection 4d is first inserted into groove 2a, slid upwardly, and then projection 4c is inserted into groove 2b, following which the wristband is pulled away from the watch case. This engages projection 4d in the transverse portion of groove 2a, thereby locking the watchband to the watch case.

Applicants respectfully note that in order to support a claim of *prima facie* anticipation, a single reference must teach or enable each of the claimed elements as arranged in the claim interpreted by one of ordinary skill in the art. However, nothing in

Chagnoux or the art of record would teach or suggest, either alone in combination, projections ("positioning counterparts") that are located on the reverse side (which is either in contact with the user's wrist or opposing the side in contact with the user's wrist) of the wristband structure, as now defined by amended Claim 1.

Locating the positioning counterparts on the reverse side of the wristband structure provides for the fast, easy, and reliable detachment or replacement of the wristband from the case without exposing the positioning counterparts along an edge, such as the side edges of the wristband shown in Figure 2 of *Chagnoux*, that would make these projections significantly more susceptible to being displaced and/or broken. In addition, placement of the positioning counterparts on the reverse side of the wristband structure enables longitudinal forces applied to the wristband by, for example, expansion of the user's wrist when the device is worn, to be distributed over a greater surface area of the wristband structure, which significantly increases the strength of the attachment arrangement.

For instance, one can readily observe that placement of the projections 4a-4d along the edges of the wristband in Figure 2 of *Chagnoux* requires that the wristband retain its shape with little or no deformation in order to maintain connection between the wristband and case. That is, if a force applied to the wristband in Figure 2 directed to the right resulted in a deformation of the wristband, the projections 4a-4d could easily be pulled out of their corresponding grooves allowing the wristband to be separated from the case.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2-10, which ultimately depend from Claim 1, are patentable over the art of record by virtue of their dependence. Further, Applicants

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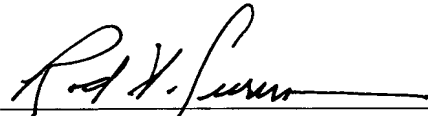
submit that Claims 2-10 define additional patentable subject matter in their own right.
Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C.
§102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Entry of the amendments to Claim 1; favourable consideration of Claim 1, as amended; favourable reconsideration of Claims 2-10; and allowance of pending Claims 1-10 are solicited.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this Amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicants' attorney at the telephone number provided below to discuss any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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